

## QC TASK FORCE STEPS UP CRACKDOWN ON 'KULIGLIG'

The Manila Times · 25 Feb 2020 · A5 · FRANZ LEWIN EMBUDO

THE Quezon City government has confiscated 130 kuliglig or improvised tractor-trikes plying the EDSA- Balintawak area as part of its crackdown on “colorum” vehicles. Colorum vehicles operate without franchise. “Hindika mi na ghigp it nung na kara and ahil mag papasko[ We were not strict last Christmas season. But now, their livelihood will no longer be an excuse),” Mayor Josefina Belmonte said. She added that clearing operations along the city’s roads started in November last year but arrested drivers were only given warnings. “We have many support programs that we offer for them,” Belmonte said. In a dialogue with the arrested drivers, she offered three modes of assistance for their livelihood amid the banning of kuliglig along city roads: “Balik Probinsya” program, where they could reclaim their sidecars and use them to earn a livelihood in their respective hometowns; surrender of their sidecars in exchange for P5,000 cash aid and alternative livelihood aid; and application with the city’s e- trike program. The city government offered livelihood aid to the wives of the kuliglig drivers and scholarships for their children. Tricycle Regulatory Division head Ben Ibon said kuliglig are prohibited from operating along national highways and main roads, a ban that also applies to regular tricycles and pedicabs.